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TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 1905.

Secretary Wilson.

Secretary Wilson's expressions, after spending a good part of a day as guest of the President at Oyster Bay, will serve the purpose of setting at rest for a time, at least, the stories that he is to retire from the Cabinet. They will also remove all doubt that the investigation of graft in the Department of Agriculture is to be pushed to the limit.

From every point of view the President and the Secretary are right in making this inquiry as complete as possible. Every department of the Government should be made clean and kept clean. There has been disposition to find fault with Secretary Wilson because he has shown some prejudice in favor of the theory that his subordinates were honest men. But proceeding on the theory that men should be considered, prima facie, dishonest, and compelled to prove themselves innocent, has resulted in some tragic mistakes—in the Postoffice Department investigation, for instance. The most thorough investigation should be made wherever it is needed, but it should be made with care that innocent men should not be smirched and their reputations destroyed.

Secretary Wilson is the man who has made the Department of Agriculture strong and efficient. He is the man who can correct its shortcomings. The President has unshaken confidence in him, and that will strengthen the hands of the Secretary for the work of inquiry and reorganization that is now before him.

Playing and Winning.

Winning at everything we do is one of our national ambitions. We strive to do this by dint of concentration, extravagance, and farisight. In everything we look far ahead. If we can by any ingenuity anticipate normal development, we do so. If we can see a tendency toward any particular result we try that result in advance. We are always on the alert, always experimenting and making sacrifices, and we are always winning.

Occasionally there are exceptions to this rule. It is becoming more and more apparent that in time amateur athletics, not half-professional athletics, but athletics as a pastime, is to be one of these exceptions. The explanation is that Americans have not the amateur nature. We cannot even play moderately. We must go in for a thing whole-souled or let it alone. With us recreation is a contest, and idleness a punishment. We will do well to learn how to play for play's sake. We will be the gainers if we can realize that while winning is the end of all sport it is not its object. We shall be healthier as a nation if we can attain to such control that we can play and not care so much who wins.

These are fine days to indulge that spirit. And if we will indulge it we will find that in our work—where winning really counts—we have a new strength.

Being Strong Enough to Fight.

The New York Sun undertakes to indict John Mitchell and the United Mine Workers of deliberate preparation to make war upon the United Mine Owners. It is "indeed glad" to print the leader's assertion "that the 'stories of strikes and general strikes' in the coal mining districts are 'all rot.'" But it is "indeed gladness" banishes before this quotation from Mr. Mitchell's speech at Scranton on July 27:

I am apprehensive of the condition which may prevail next year. Five hundred thousand mine workers will be affected by the expiration of these agreements. If we are prepared we can gain better conditions than we are enjoying at the present time.

For this, of course, the United Mine Workers are all to blame. It seems to the Sun that the workmen "intend to meet their employers on the 1st of next April, with a smile on their faces and clubs in their sleeves." That would be dreadful. Mr. Mitchell's further statement that he will not be satisfied unless the miners get an eight-hour day and full recognition for their union is, by inference at least, the threat of a modern Attila.

This would not be so serious if the Sun were trying to be funny. But it is arguing, by suggestion, the extremely dangerous doctrine that these workmen should be prohibited from entering next spring's conference with their employers as well prepared to hold their own as the mine owners. Suppose there were no union, and Mr. Mitchell or anybody else were to ask the public-spirited philanthropists who supply us with coal for an eight-hour day, what would happen? Why, there would be another collective smile and another set of distributive

clubs. Have the men who work for these philanthropists any more right to hope for consideration at their hands than we who buy coal from them?

It is a waste of words to say that no one desires another coal strike. On the contrary, every user of hard coal in the whole country hopes prayerfully that none may occur. But if strikes are to be averted only by having our American workmen place themselves deliberately and irrevocably in the hands of men like President Baer, we shall have bought domestic peace at a price which will dim the cost of the greatest wars in history.

Mr. Mitchell and his men will go to that conference next April strong-armed, it is true. But that is not of necessity a menace to peace. As this country could never be secure in its tranquility save by being strong enough to fight for it, these workmen can have no peace save by being ready to fight for it.

Important if True.

Not much good is accomplished in this country by complacent satisfaction with the Government. Recognizing this, good newspapers are ever on the watch for weaknesses in the Government—national, State, and local. But this should not lead journals of influence into attacks which are allegations merely, and are unsustained.

This is the mistake which is made by the Des Moines Capital, when it says, editorially:

More serious than delay are the complaints made of the minor local officials at Washington. Absolutely independent of the people, they love ease as much as the judges, and impartiality vastly less. Then can charge the highest of fees for the least labor and play tricks with the law. It is the like in the interest of their class such as would not be tolerated where there is any direct responsibility to the people.

If independence of the people is a good thing for judges and high officials it is a poor one for those in the lower ranks who abuse it, as they do in Washington, even under the shadow of the bench itself. The Roosevelt broom may with benefit sweep clear through the City Hall at Washington.

All this may be true. The Times can neither affirm nor deny it until it knows what it means. It is due the people of the District of Columbia, as well as the readers of the Capital, that it re-enforce these broad charges with distinct allegations, circumstantially defined. Until that is done they are entitled to no hearing whatever, either from the people of Washington or the readers of the Des Moines Capital.

We guess that we guessed right when we guessed that Secretary Wilson would stay.

Jerome wants to be re-elected as an Independent; as if Jerome could possibly be anything else!

The Leather trust is reported to have absorbed the only remaining independent leather interest of importance, which indicates that it is about due to have its hide nicely tanned by the President's celebrated band of trust busters.

A thirteen-million-dollar deficit is unlucky, too.

As soon as there was talk about investigating the Weather Bureau the cool air valve was opened. Nothing like a little investigating when things get to running at loose ends.

The most alarming thing about the coal strike outlook is that David Willcox and Divine R. Baer are confident there will be none.

M. Witte having complained that there isn't any basis on which to start the peace discussion, the Mikado's envoys lose no time in making plain that they will furnish the necessary basis.

In asking a billion indemnity, Japan calculates that she is as good as Germany, and if any fierce looking man named Hohenzollern doubts it he can come right out to the back yard and take off his coat.

If the Equitable gets back all that graft money its surplus will be more top heavy than ever.

A St. Louis man claims the largest butterfly collection in America, numbering 27,000. He ought to see the boardwalk on a right hot afternoon.

The czar says he'll not conclude a peace unworthy of Russia. Hard to imagine how he could.

Woman deprived of influence in public affairs? Secretary Wilson says the whole graft exposure in his department started with the quarrel of two gamblers over a woman.

This Monroe doctrine business, like some other good things, is best when you have a monopoly of it, but not so good when somebody else springs it on you.

Even before he was convicted of malaria and yellow fever dissemination, the mosquito was not regarded as a really desirable member of society.

The daily escape of the Sultan of Turkey from being killed isn't so remarkable. Nearly everybody has a daily escape from being killed.

A FLOATING SECURITY.

To be unable to swim is almost a reflection on the character. A man who cannot swim is not only a danger to himself, but to his fellows.—Grimshy's Corner.

In nature's justice versed
Our rude forefathers voted
That any prisoner immersed
Was guiltless if he floated.
They did not even ask of him
That he should swim.

That was in times remote.
Today, 'tis worth the noting
That who a company can float
And yearly keep it floating,
We all delight to honor him
If we are in the swim!

They're innocent who dive
In shady "pools," when "cover"
Would not suffice to keep alive
Or even tide them over;
If one in such a sea can swim,
Fail in with him!
—London Chronicle.

IN THE CIRCLE OF SOCIETY

PRINCESS HERE WITH HUSBAND

Former Beatrix Winans and Consort at Lenox.

GUESTS OF THE WHISTLERS

Newport Hears Matrimonial Intentions of James Hazen Hyde, of Equitable Fame.

The Princess de Bearn has returned to her native land for a brief visit before going with her husband, the Prince de Bearn, to his post in St. Petersburg. As Miss Beatrix Winans, of Baltimore, the princess was one of the most popular girls on this side of the Atlantic, and although she repeatedly declared she would never marry a title, her aversion to these much sought prizes was soon overcome when Cupid stepped in, bearing the title on his pretty little head.

The prince and princess have been in America since Saturday and are now the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Whistler in Lenox. After a visit of two weeks to the Whistlers the prince and princess will go to Newport, where they are to be the guests of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Winans, at their beautiful villa.

Many entertainments have been planned in honor of this charming American girl and her titled husband during their stay in Newport. They are on their honeymoon and their friends in the exclusive social set are manifestly determined to make it one round of gayety.

Dispatches from Newport say that James Hazen Hyde, of Equitable fame, also suggests that Miss Gladys Deacon, whom he met and entertained in Paris after her reported engagement to the Crown Prince of Germany was said to have been broken. The attraction. The cynics of even the most exclusive set are forced to conclude the truth of the rumor, though the closest relatives of the young couple positively refuse to seriously discuss the matter.

Mrs. Charles H. Baldwin, widow of the richest admiral the navy ever possessed, with whom Miss Deacon is making her home, accompanied the handsome young society woman and Mr. Hyde to the select vaudeville entertainment last night.

While it is a conclusion among those who are not circles that Mr. Hyde is here for the purpose of ripening the affection which they say has existed since the young people first met, they are patiently awaiting an announcement from the Baldwin villa.

Paul Morton, former Secretary of the Navy, but now president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, contemplates another visit to Newport on Friday to remain over Sunday as the guest of Edward J. Baer, Jr., of the city. Mr. Morton is entertained during his visit last week and purposes spending many of the week ends at this fashionable resort.

Mr. and Mrs. Lutz Anderson, who are old acquaintances of the new Russian Ambassador and Baroness Eekardstein, returned recently to their Brookline, Mass., home. They spent one day as the guests of the Andersons, and between luncheon and tea were shown over the fine estate in automobiles, and viewed the Italian gardens which are the pride of Mrs. Anderson.

Lady Herbert, wife of the late British ambassador to the United States, is in Marienbad at the Hotel Weimer, where King Edward is expected to arrive in a few weeks. Lady Herbert's sister, Mrs. Ogden Goelet, will be one of the hostesses to the King during his stay in Marienbad.

Miss Helen Cannon, daughter of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, is in Lucerne, Switzerland. She was the guest of honor at a banquet last week given on the terrace of the Lucerne Club. The United States consul, Mr. Morgan, presided and a company of thirty guests was entertained.

Senator Chauncey Depew and Thomas F. Walsh have taken boxes for the Newport horse show, which is soon to engage the attention of society.

Senator and Mrs. Henry Cabot Lodge, who are spending the summer abroad, will sail for this country on September 4, on the Cedric.

Dr. D. J. Stafford, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, has arrived in Paris where he will remain for a visit of several weeks.

Mrs. H. D. Gordon and family left Washington today for a month's visit in Herndon, Va.

J. H. Sutton is registered at Sunset Hall, Asbury Park.

Mrs. Frank B. Conger returned home yesterday from Europe, where she went to receive from a German prince the children are now in school in Berlin.

Dr. Chester H. Beatty has returned to Washington from a visit to Niagara Falls and New York.

Miss Emily A. Gladman is in Baltimore on a visit to several friends.

ENGINEER BAND CONCERT IN THE IOWA CIRCLE

Beginning at 7:30 o'clock, a concert will be given at Iowa circle by the Engineer Band, under the leadership of Blon Kempke. Following is the program: March, "Soldiers' Blood"; "William Tell"; Rossini Eulogium solo, "Longing for Home"; Corp. Mills.

Waltz, "Loveland"; Holzmann Excerpts from the "Prince of Plzen"; "Echoes from the Metropolitan Opera House"; "Happy Heine"; Lamp Selection, "Little Johnny Jones"; Cohan "Star-Spangled Banner."

FIRE DEPARTMENT RULINGS APPROVED

The recommendations of Chief Bell, of the Fire Department, to Assistant Engineer John A. Albin be retired on a pension of \$50 per month, because of heart disease contracted in the service, and that Fire Marshal Sidney Bleber's sick leave be extended thirty days, have been approved by Commissioner Macfarland.

Commissioner Macfarland also approves Chief Bell's recommendations that Private John T. Gould be retired, assistant engineer, vice Albin, retired; that Senior Watchman Harmon A. Chapman be promoted to be private, and that Robert J. Smith be promoted to be temporary watchman. The above changes go into effect today.



THE PRINCESS DE BEARN, Formerly Miss Winans, of Baltimore. The Prince and Princess Are Now in America on Their Honeymoon.

VISIT TO AMERICA BY EDMUND MONSON

He Was British Ambassador to United States During Lincoln's Administration and Won Popularity. Has Refused a Peerage.

America is to receive a visit from a former British ambassador, Sir Edmund Monson, who, during the administration of President Lincoln, was one of the most popular members of the diplomatic set.

Sir Edmund possessed a sense of humor which President Lincoln declared to be quite unusual among the Britishers, and found himself a great favorite with the President and his official family, not to mention the members of the Diplomatic Corps.

This distinguished Englishman has refused a peerage and enjoys the honor of having on one memorable occasion averted a war between England and France in connection with the Fashoda crisis by the clever way in which he imparted the purport of a dispatch to the French foreign minister without officially communicating it to him.

Sir Edmund has a magnificent silver gift dinner service which was presented to him by the United States Government in recognition of his services as arbitrator in the Butterfield claims controversy which, it may be remembered, he decided against this Government.

Baron Hengelmüller, Austrian ambassador to the United States, arrived from Europe today.

Lady Durand and Miss Durand, wife and daughter of the British ambassador, have decided to spend several weeks at Murray Bay, a popular rendezvous for society folk. They have left Lenox for that resort, but will return to the Berkshires at the end of their stay on the St. Lawrence.

Senor Quesada, the Cuban minister, has returned to Washington from a trip to Europe, where he and Mme. Quesada have been having a delightful trip.

Mme. Quesada did not accompany the minister to Washington, but remained in New York.

Baron and Baroness Eekardstein will entertain a large house party at their English estate, Bushbridge Hall, during the Goodwood races.

Baron Eekardstein is well known in Washington society, having been attached to the German embassy here at one time.

Ambassador and Mrs. Tower are acting hosts to a number of visiting Americans in Berlin. They recently entertained at breakfast in honor of James D. Phelan, former mayor of San Francisco, and his daughter, Miss Phelan, who are traveling on the Continent.

Sydney Sellinger and Clarence Grosner have left for a trip to Norfolk, New York, Philadelphia, and Atlantic City.

M. R. George is spending ten days in Atlantic City and New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Kohner and family are spending a couple of weeks at Atlantic City.

Miss Estelle Peyser, Julius Peyser, and Sydney Strauss left in a party yesterday for Atlantic City, where Miss Peyser will spend a week, and the gentlemen two weeks at the Rudolph.

Misses Minnie and Rena Altman, Mrs. Altman, and Miss Lillie Berman are spending a couple of weeks at the Chesapeake House, Colonial Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph King are on a delightful trip, having planned to visit Thousand Islands, Great Lakes, Niagara, Saratoga, and Auvergne.

Gen. Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A., retired, and his son, Lieut. Sherman Miles, who arrived in London last week, have left that city to visit Waterloo, and some other famous battlefields of Europe. They have been much entertained at luncheons and dinners since their arrival in England.

P. J. McDonald and family are spending the summer at Renshaw cottage, Colonial Beach, Va.

Major James Albert Clark, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, who left the city for Green Acre, Me., where he is scheduled to deliver three addresses on Emerson, and by special request one on immigration. The influx of the foreign element into the New England States has wrought a pessimistic view.

RETIREMENT PLAN SHOULD BE LIMITED

Government Employee Says the Clerks in the Various Executive Departments Should Only Be Considered—General Law He Considers Impracticable.

To the Editor of The Washington Times:

It may require a hundred years of agitation and education to bring the country up to a uniform system of dropping disabled employees of the Government from active service upon reduced pay—the principle of permanent tenure must be more generally accepted and more securely fixed in the public mind than it now is, before the subject can even be calmly discussed. The very mention of a plan for retiring the aged and infirm awakens a storm of opposition that shuts off all inquiry and all intelligent discussion.

For the present I think the question should be considered as purely local, and limited to the clerical force of the executive departments in this city. I was a silent spectator of the somewhat tumultuous proceedings at the late meeting in Grand Army Hall, and while it afforded me much satisfaction to see the attempt to destroy the distinction between the "classified service" and the general working force of the Government, so thoroughly discredited, yet I entirely sympathized with the anti-civil service faction in the proposal to restrict the operation of a retiring law to the executive departments in Washington.

The apparently authoritative announcement from the spokesmen for the navy that the organized labor of the country would never permit the enactment of a retiring law that did not include mechanics and laborers as well as clerks, no doubt hastened the stampede of the factionists—the civil service side. Everybody caught on to the tremendous significance of the word "employee," as distinguished from "clerk," and hastened to repudiate a proposition which they knew the country would not for an instant tolerate.

The press reporters were so greatly interested in the personalities of the debate and in the combative spirit of the meeting, that they apparently lost sight of the real significance of the sudden disappearance of all opposition to the old Retiring Association. When the square issue between "employee" and "clerk" was presented, there was a general push to get under the protection of the "classified service." Whatever may be done in the future for the "employee" of the Government as a general class, for the present, I think that the aged and infirm department clerks, in this city, are the only persons to be contemplated in the enactment of a local retiring law.

The first step to be taken should be a readjustment of the several grades of the classified service, and of the pay attached to each grade to meet the conditions resulting from the remarkable growth of the National Capital during the past forty years, and the unexampled development and prosperity of the whole country. The cost of living has advanced more than 50 per cent since the pay of the various grades of clerks was fixed, and rates which were regarded as reasonable fifty or sixty years ago are utterly inadequate now. Municipal expenditures have been doubled, tripled, and quadrupled, compelling a corresponding increase in taxation and assessed values. A \$1,200 clerk must pay down one-third of his entire income, in advance, for the rent of a house, if he wishes to live in a respectable neighborhood, within easy reach of his work.

I trust that it is not the policy of the Government to compel its clerical em-

ployees to live in cheap tenement houses in the midst of shabby surroundings. They are now, and should continue to be, men and women of intelligence, of good social position, and constituting as a whole, a most important element in the life of the city; many of them earnest workers in the churches and in the organized charities, and contributing according to their ability to the extension of the Kingdom of Heaven. If they are to continue to maintain their position as useful and respected members of society, they must get more pay. Beginning with the \$300 class, \$50 should be added to the annual pay of each grade. This would be appropriate and completely eliminate the idea of pensioning a class, which is now so distasteful to the country at large.

Having obtained this advance in pay the whole body of clerks, from the highest to the lowest, would be perfectly willing to tax themselves for the benefit of their disabled associates, and for their own benefit if physical infirmity should fall upon them. I believe that an assessment of 2 per cent on the disbursements for each month would be quite sufficient to pay \$50 per month to each clerk coming within the retiring grade, where there should be no age limit. It is the duty of every clerk (man or woman) to keep at work as long as mind and body are adequate to the daily task. When the infirmities of age begin to interfere with efficiency, if there is easier duty in a lower grade, there should be an exchange of places. There are always those below who are waiting to step up. When infirmity becomes compulsory, then retirement should be compulsory.

There are many details to be worked out by time and experience, but I have indicated what in my judgment should be the first step toward the organization of a system of retirement for disabled clerks.

JAMES P. MATTHEWS, Pension Bureau, Washington, July 31.

THE OLD AND NEW.

To the Editor of The Washington Times:

My father entered a store as clerk for my grandfather when only fourteen years of age in 1832. My mother had twelve children, of whom eight survived, and she passed away aged fifty-two.

My parents generally arose at 5 a. m. on weekdays and 6 a. m. on Sunday, and my father closed the store at 10 p. m. My mother worked for the children until 11 p. m., and had no sewing machine. She only weighed about 100 pounds, and with consumption after thirty years' of excessive labor.

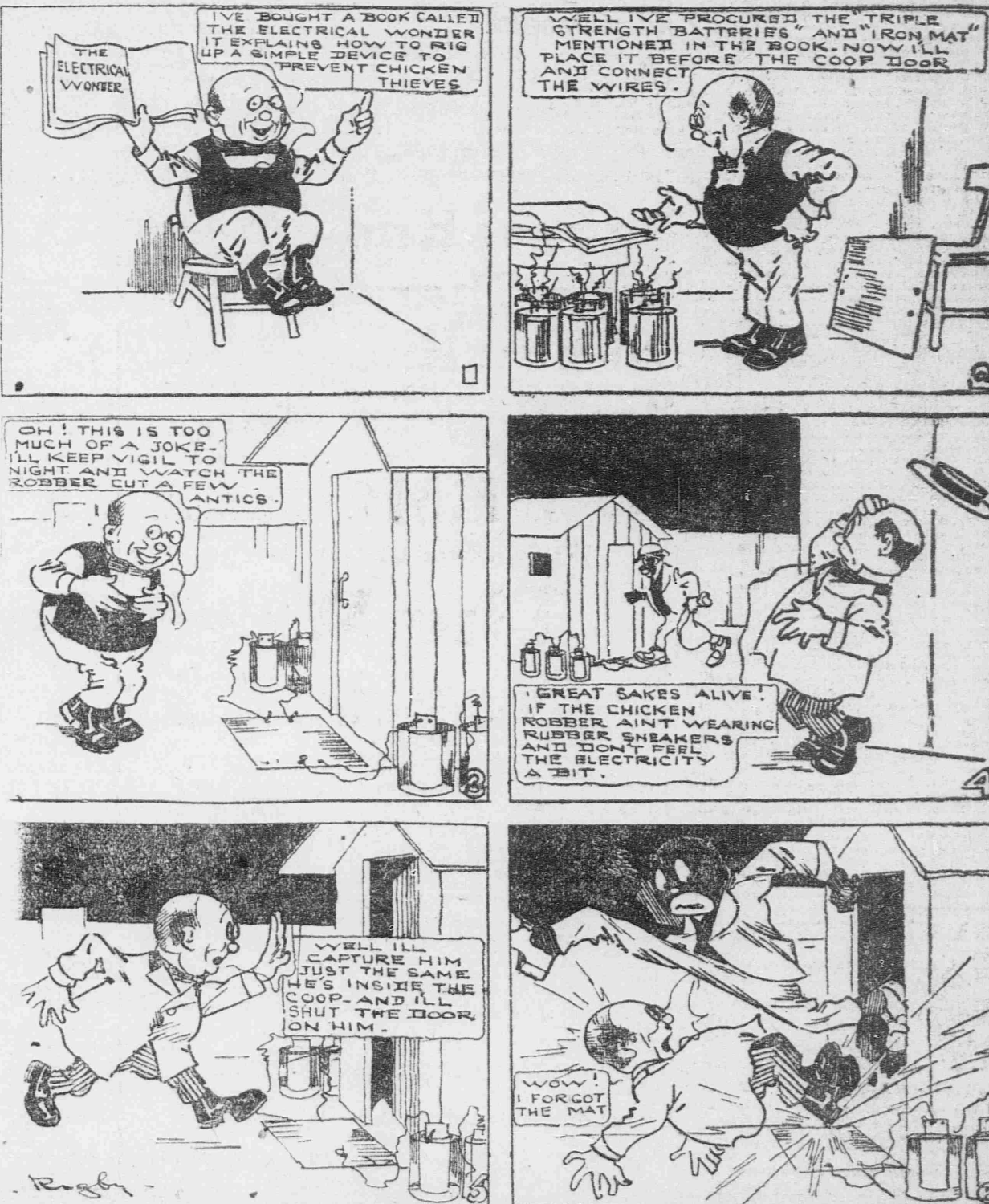
We had prayers and a chapter of the Bible before breakfast, which was on the table generally at 6 a. m., and all the children were required to be at prayers and we never had a second meal any time in the day to humor laziness.

My only sister was called in the morning when my father had built the kitchen fire and put on the teakettle, and she assisted in dressing the children and getting breakfast along with mother and the hired girl. At 9 p. m. she was ready for sleep. She always worked in the house until she went away to school at fifteen, and graduated at seventeen. She taught school until she was married, my father was twenty-two.

How many girls help mother now to get breakfast or dress the children? How many know how to make bread, cake, pies, or prepare the dishes that mothers of olden times made? How many sleep until the breakfast hour? How many wash and wipe dishes for mother? No wonder the land is full of divorcees! And yet this is the glorious new!

25 DAVID S. COPELAND, 25 Second street southeast.

BOOK = BUCKLES. TAUGHT BY BUCKLES.



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